



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/029,811	12/27/2001	Nevenka Dimitrova	US010724	5532
24737	7590	11/03/2004	EXAMINER	
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS P.O. BOX 3001 BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			BHATNAGAR, ANAND P	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2623	

DATE MAILED: 11/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/029,811

Applicant(s)

DIMITROVA ET AL.

Examiner

Anand Bhatnagar

Art Unit

2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 19-21 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 December 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/27/01.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 7-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over www.imdb.com (web page of July 21, 2001 and two examples of queries are provided. The initials stand for internet movie database. It will be further referred to as "website") and Ouchi et al. (U.S. patent 6,629,107).

Regarding claim 7: The website discloses a method for providing name-face/voice-role association, comprising the steps of:

- (a) receiving a user query providing at least one of a role-name, actor name, portion of text spoken by an actor, and image of an actor
- b) searching a database containing role-names, actor names, text, and face models/voice models associated with the role-names, actor names, and text to find data matching the query in step (a);
- (c) providing the user with information cross-referenced by at least one of the role-name, actor name, portion of text, and voice model and face model matching the image of the actor.

A query is placed in a box wherein information related to the query is obtained and displayed to user. An example is provided by the examiner wherein the role name of James Bond is placed in a query and the results of the actors

that played all the James Bond in all the movies and also other information is accompanied by each actor is linked such as their biography/text, photo/face model, other movies they acted in, etc. that is contained in the database is returned and displayed to the user).

The website discloses to search a database for information on a specific movie/actor/role/etc. for a query that has been placed by a user. This website does not teach to have a voice model for the actors/roles. Ouchi et al. teaches to obtain information such as character/face/speech/etc. on objects and create a multimedia database with this obtained information (Ouchi et al.; fig. 1 elements 1-11 and col. 3 lines 19-45). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to combine the teaching of Ouchi et al. to that of the website because they are analogous in storing multiple data of an object/person. One in the art would have been motivated to incorporate the teaching of speech (read as voice model) of Ouchi et al. to that of the website database to have a system wherein a specific voice of interest in a movie/audio tape of an actor can be determined by having a voice recognition unit and database.

Regarding claim 8: The method wherein the information provided in step (c) corresponding to the role-name, actor name and portion of text is in the form of hyperlinked titles of actor names, role names, and program titles. This is well known in the art wherein different websites can be accessed from another website that is linked in order to look at related information of a subject. Examiner takes official Notice.

Regarding claim 9: The method wherein the face model is a photo (website; wherein a photo/face model of the actor is displayed).

Regarding claim 10: The method wherein the face model is provided to the user in a video segment (Ouchi et al.; fig. 1 elements 1-4 and 8 and col. 3 lines 19-25 and 59-62, wherein the face is extracted from a movie "video segment" which has been provided).

Regarding claim 11: The method wherein the video segment includes a voice model associated with the face model (Ouchi et al.; fig. 1 elements 1-4,7, and 8 and col. 3 lines 55-62, wherein the speech and the face of a person is extracted and stored in a database).

Regarding claim 12: It is rejected for the same reasons as claim 7 above.

Regarding claim 13: The method wherein the information provided in step (c) includes biographical information associated with the actor name and a list of all programs in which the actor name appears (website; wherein it displays the biographical information and all related movies/televisions appearances of a queried actor/actress/person).

Regarding claim 14: The method wherein the information provided in step. (c) includes providing additional face models/voice models associated with said actor name in at least one of all the programs in which the actor name appears (website; wherein it displays the biographical information and all related movies/televisions appearances of a queried actor/actress/person.).

The website gives and displays additional movies/television shows that the actor has appeared in. When the movie title given has been selected then a new photo of this is displayed of this movie/actor of this specific movie, i.e. additional face models of the actor. The website does not give additional voice models related to the related programs. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify the system for this feature in order to obtain different speech/ vocal sounds of the actors.

Regarding claim 15: The method wherein the information includes historical information with regard to the role name (website; wherein the results of a character name results in all the actors, that played the role in each movie, what year it was made, etc. This is read as historical information).

Regarding claim 16: The method further comprising providing links to view the additional face models/voice models associated with said actor name in at least one of all the programs in which said actor name appears (website; wherein it displays the biographical information and links to all related movies/television appearances of a queried actor/actress/person.).

Regarding claim 17: The method wherein the information includes cross references to directors and producers of the program (website; wherein it displays the biographical information and links to all related movies/television appearances of a queried actor/actress/person. These related links contain information of each movie, such as all the characters, director, etc.).

Regarding claim 18: The method further comprising:

Art Unit: 2623

using speech recognition to receive the user query in step (a) (Ouchi et al. col. 12 lines 20-35, wherein the speech spoken is searched in the database for the person who had spoken those words).

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-6 and 19-21 are allowed.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Nakamura et al. (Pat. Pub. No. 2002/0022959 A1) for a voice recognition/database.

Contact Information

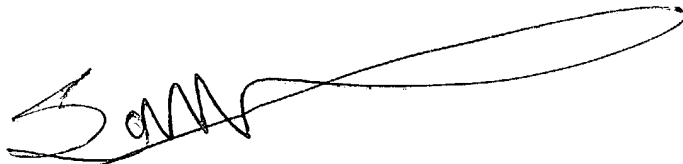
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anand Bhatnagar whose telephone number is (703) 306-5914, whose supervisor is Amelia Au whose number is 703-308-6604, group fax is 703-872-9306, and Tech center 2600 customer service office number is 703-306-0377.

AB

Anand Bhatnagar

Art Unit 2623

October 28, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Samir', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

SAMIR AHMED
PRIMARY EXAMINER